

new tricks but I learned Many. I am good cook have done a little at the wash Tub work my Garden &c you no doubt would laugh to see me with my sleeves rolled up making up Biscuit I can make them and then eat them been in Cal 9 years and have not taken a pill never sick excep colds in Miss we lived on Calomel and quinine. So if we have made nothing else by coming to Cal we have fine health, if you cant write yourself to me make Preston or Martha answer this give me all the news of the family hea[l]ths &c. My wife desires to be affectionately remembered to you and Brother Willie and all the children Sarah sends her love to you and her cousins Remember me to your dear children and Mr. Mangum and say to him to be on the look out he must leave before long and try and be ready. I want to meet him in Heaven with you and all his charge is the sincere wish your

Brother

ED: DAVIS

P.S. If Aunt Letty is alive remember me to her.

Sally Alston (Mangum) Leach to Charity A. Mangum⁴

At Home. Aprl 2. '59.

Saturday

My dearest Mother,

....⁵

Col keep racing with the rain in planting his crop the rain comes & stops him repeatedly he has planted some corn, we have just planted peas & onions.— a week ago I had a few peas, our neighbours are all up long ago. Col has been trying to get a rockaway but has not as yet succeeded. Aunt Polly says tell you she is well except a cold & Sallie is the sweetest little creature in the world—that Sallie calls her Aunt Partie. Sallie sleeps with Aunt 'Pollie, its been raining steadily all day, every thing looks very beautiful & green. That was dreadful to Mr Key's⁶ friends that was shot in W-City—ask

⁴The original is in the possession of Miss Preston Weeks, Washington, D. C.

⁵Seventeen lines about her baby boy and the health of the other children are omitted.

⁶Daniel E. Sickles, congressman from New York, in 1859 killed Philip Barton Key, son of Francis Scott Key. Key was accused of trifling with Sickles' wife. Edwin M. Stanton defended Sickles in the trial following Key's death. Sickles was acquitted. Margaret Leech, *Reveille in Washington*, 1860-1865, New York, 1941, p. 35.